

Hermann Park
Conservancy is a
citizens' organization
dedicated to the
stewardship and
improvement of
Hermann Park—
today and for
generations
to come.



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Friends,

What a year it has been! As we celebrate Hermann Park's centennial, there is much to be excited about. Thanks to our generous Centennial Campaign donors, in fiscal year 2014 we broke ground on two major projects, the Grand Gateway and the McGovern Centennial Gardens. This special year is also being commemorated by the Centennial

Art Project, Art in the Park, and a beautiful book, Houston's Hermann Park: A Century of Community, by Barrie Scardino Bradley. And with the dedication of the extraordinary McGovern Centennial Gardens and Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion in October, a new chapter in Hermann Park's story will begin.

The community has joined in the celebration of the Park's milestone year, as well. In March 2014, the inaugural *Hermann Park Kite Festival* was held to the delight of kids of all ages. *Art in the Park* has brought a series of large-scale, contemporary art installations to our city, enthralling Park visitors as they encounter each new artwork. Our annual fundraising events, *Hats in the Park* and *Evening in the Park*, took on special significance as we toasted the Park's centennial.

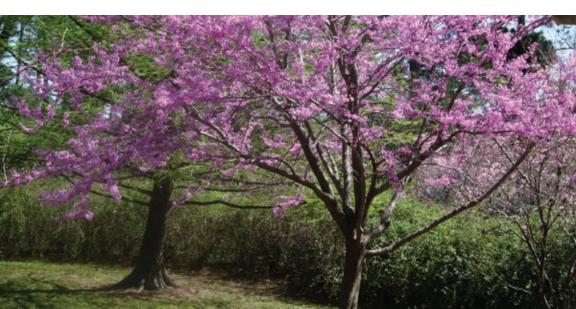
As you read through this annual report, which reflects on the Conservancy's fiscal year from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, you will see the preparations for and celebrations of a truly magical year for Hermann Park. And, as always, the Conservancy remains dedicated to maintaining, revitalizing, and safeguarding the resources of Hermann Park, as reflected in the following pages.

Thank you to our donors, the Conservancy's dedicated board members, staff and volunteers who have helped to ensure that Hermann Park's centennial year is a year to remember!

Sincerely,

Ann Kennedy 2014 Board Chair

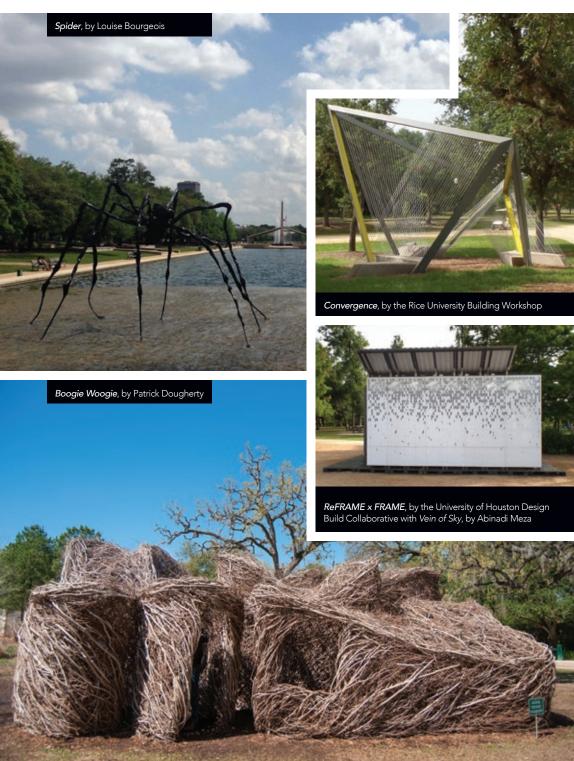
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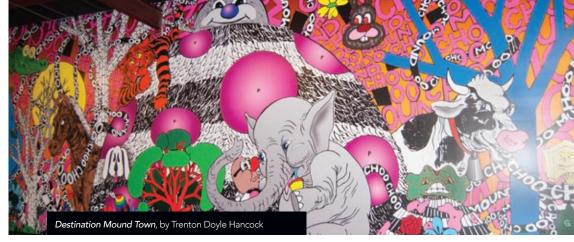


# Art in the Park

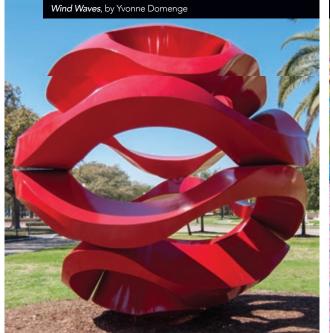
The Conservancy's Centennial Art Project, Art in the Park, is a series of contemporary art installations displayed over the Park's 445 acres. Each unique artwork has added a special flair to the year's celebrations and conveys a feeling of curiosity and delight to Park visitors. Many of the Art in the Park installations will remain on display through 2015. Destination Mound Town is a permanent exhibit in the train tunnel.

All photos except ReFRAME x FRAME and Convergence: Megan Badger Photography/Weingarten Art Group











# Hermann Park Kite Festival

The first annual *Hermann Park Kite Festival* brought more than 5,000 Houstonians to the Park on March 29, 2014, for a day of old-fashioned family fun. Kites of all colors and sizes filled the sky delighting kids of all ages. Food trucks, music, and performance groups added to the festive atmosphere.



# McGovern Centennial Gardens

Bulldozers took over the former Houston Garden Center site in September 2013 to prepare the area for the construction of the much-anticipated McGovern Centennial Gardens and Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion. The Conservancy's largest undertaking to date, the McGovern Centennial Gardens will completely transform the 15-acre site adjacent to the Houston Museum of Natural Science and Miller Outdoor Theatre.

Over the course of the year, amazing changes have taken place. The new parking lot on Hermann Drive opened at the end of April 2014. Trees, shrubs, and native grasses give even the parking lot a garden-like feel. The Mount, a focal point of the Gardens, grew to its intended 30-foot height and the pathway and cascade began taking

shape. The foundations and framing began for the Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion and new offices. General contractor Tellepsen, landscape contractor Shooter and Lindsey, the design teams Hoerr Schaudt and White Oak Studio, as well as Bohlin Cywinski Jackson have worked diligently toward the completion of the project.

Fundraising was completed for the \$31 million project during the fiscal year 2014 with generous contributions from Susan and Mac Dunwoody, Diana and Russell Hawkins, The Fondren Foundation, Clare A. Glassell, the Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, and the Petrello Family Foundation, joining previously committed gifts from supporters of this project.





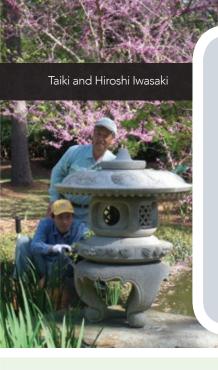
New trees bring new life to Hermann Park. In fiscal year 2014, the Conservancy added 600 trees to the forest growing in the Lake Picnic Area, and 1,071 native trees were planted along the slopes and in the swales of Brays Bayou throughout Bayou Parkland. A number of stressed live oaks were pampered with compost tea and invigorated with air spade treatments, six mature notable live oaks were transplanted to accommodate the new McGovern Centennial Gardens design, and young trees were hand-watered to supplement rainfall. Reforestation and maintenance revenues totaled \$95,775, thanks to the generosity of individuals, corporations, and foundations.



Colorful blooms in Lake Plaza

# Horticulture

The Conservancy gardening staff's loving care of the Lake Plaza planter beds ensured a vibrant welcome to Park visitors throughout the year. Annuals provided a spark of color during the summer months, while perennials displayed their spring and summer hues, shrubs attracted birds with their bright autumn berries, and grasses and trees showed off their winter texture and form. Trees were pruned, perennials and grasses were given their annual haircut, and all were fertilized and mulched.



# Japanese Garden

Hiroshi and Taiki Iwasaki, our expert garden team from Japan, returned to the Japanese Garden this year to continue training Houston Parks and Recreation Department gardening staff. This year's focus was on tree and shrub pruning and trimming in true Japanese style, fence building, and design for specific areas of the garden.



#### Kunio Minami

Congratulations to Conservancy board member, Kunio Minami, who was honored with Keep Houston Beautiful's Mayor's Proud Partner Beautification Award for his outstanding volunteer

contributions to the enhancement of the Japanese Garden.

# Maintenance & Volunteers

The Conservancy's maintenance team contributed 3,120 hours toward keeping Hermann Park in top condition. They led daily crews of community service workers who contributed 7,149 additional hours. The 8-acre Lake Picnic Area was added to the Conservancy team's care and maintenance programs were created for the new McGovern Centennial Gardens and the Grand Gateway.

The Conservancy's Volunteer Program reached its seven-year mark in fiscal year 2014. The program averaged over 13,000 hours per year, resulting in over 90,000 total volunteer service hours since its inception. More than 4,660 volunteers contributed 13,717 hours in fiscal year 2014. Some of our volunteers had a special treat working with stickwork artist, Patrick Dougherty, to create *Boogie Woogie* for *Art in the Park*. Many also enjoyed volunteering at the *Hermann Park Kite Festival* and *Run in the Park*.







# **Visitor Services**



If you've taken a train ride in Hermann
Park or pedaled across McGovern Lake,
you have met our visitor services team.
The team's goal is to create a fun and safe
experience for Park visitors while raising
vital revenue for operating and maintaining
Hermann Park.

In fiscal year 2014, more than 311,000 visitors rode the Hermann Park Railroad, bringing in \$1,011,088 in revenue. The pedal boats took 16,455 trips, carrying more than 411,000 riders and raising \$164,500.

The Conservancy completed its first full year operating Pinewood Cafe, bringing in \$402,267 in revenue, and gift shop commissions and other programs recorded \$95,000 in sales. All revenue for the fiscal year totaled \$1,672,855.

Visitor services also presented a popular fourth season of the Student Performances in the Park Series showcasing talented singers, dancers, and musicians from Houston-area schools. Other fun activities hosted by the visitor services team included rides on the Holiday Train and a holiday party for the kids, a Valentine's Day "Dinner and a Cruise" event and the celebration of George Hermann's 170th birthday with cake and crafts.













Centennial Gardens is named. Hats in the Park, along with special centennial underwriter packages which included a luncheon table, raised more than \$300,000 to support the work of Hermann Park Conservancy.





#### Evening in the Park

Guests gathered on April 25, 2014, to celebrate Hermann Park's centennial at the Conservancy's annual spring gala, *Evening in the Park*. Mo and Ric Campo, Anne and Albert Chao, and Andrea and Bill White chaired this record setting event, raising more than \$750,000. Nearly 800 people enjoyed an al fresco dinner from City Kitchen Catering overlooking McGovern Lake. While guests were sampling from the grand dessert buffet, they were treated to an extravagant light show by Nic Phillips and LD Systems followed by dance music from DJ Mav. Dancers from Suchu Dance entertained while colorful butterfly bikes from Austin Bike Zoo wove through the plaza courtesy of the Miller Outdoor Theatre Advisory Board.



# Special Events continued

# Urban Green Fall Event: Ski the Green



On November 21, 2013, members of Urban Green, Hermann Park's young professionals group, donned their après-ski attire for *Ski the Green*. Chairs Paula Whitten-Doolin and Oliver Doolin, Eve French, and Courtney Carlson Siegmund and Brandon Siegmund transformed the historic Hermann Park clubhouse into a rustic ski lodge, complete with trophy animals and skis.

#### Spring Event: Birthday en Blanc



Urban Green celebrated Hermann Park's centennial in style with *Birthday en Blanc:* Still White Hot at 100 Years Old. On May 15, 2014, more than 350 professionals decked out in white enjoyed food, drinks, a silent auction, and a DJ on Lake Plaza. Jennifer Hobson, Gregory Kaldis, David and Kelly Leonard, and John Sanfelippo chaired this fabulous event.

The events as well as Urban Green memberships raised more than \$46,000 to contribute to the Conservancy's general operating fund. Urban Green is led by a dedicated steering committee, chaired by Catherine Bradley.



#### 10th Annual Run in the Park

Energetic runners, joggers, and walkers flocked to Hermann Park for the 10th Annual Run in the Park on November 9, 2013. The family-friendly event included a 5K Run/Walk and a 1K Kids' Fun Run with a post-race party in Molly Ann Smith Plaza for 788 participants and their supporters. Sponsors provided refreshments while radio partner Sunny 99.1 entertained the crowd with popular tunes. The fun event, benefiting the Conservancy, raised \$22,929.

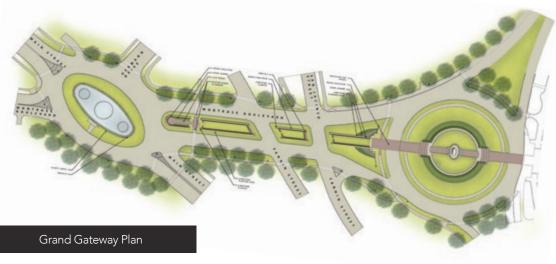


# The Grand Gateway Renovation

Hermann Park's Grand Gateway, originally featuring an elliptical sunken garden in the 1920s, lost its luster over the decades. Our Grand Gateway renovation, designed to rejuvenate the historic main entrance to the Park, began construction in the fall of 2013. The project focuses on increasing connectivity to nearby neighborhoods and METRORail, as well as adding lighting and benches.

The Grand Gateway renovation has long been close to the heart of several nearby Warwick Towers residents (who are also HPC board members). Tommy Lott, Steppie Holsclaw, Jackie Mazow, and Pat Nelson led the way in raising funds and moving the project forward. Their efforts are a shining example of how important community involvement is to the completion of Hermann Park's master plan.







#### New HPC Website Launched

A fresh look and fun new features were designed for the Conservancy's website in fiscal year 2014. An interactive map helps visitors quickly find points of interest and walking guides offer an itinerary based on visitors' interests. Another popular feature on the homepage is a place for the community to share their Park memories through Instagram.





Visit us at: hermannpark.org





DONORS

Hermann Park Conservancy is grateful to all who generously contributed to the beautification, restoration, and improvement of Hermann Park during fiscal year 2014.

## McGovern Centennial Gardens

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# Statements of Financial Position as of June 30, 2014

#### **ASSETS**

Cash Cash equivalents designated for construction projects Prepaid expenses and other assets Pledges receivable Investments Property, net	179,092 7,882,846 20,236,472 1,280,078
TOTAL ASSETS	33,380,470
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Liabilities: Accounts payable and accrued expenses Construction payable Notes payable Funds held on behalf of City of Houston Total liabilities	1,934,433 625,000
Net assets: Unrestricted Temporarily restricted Permanently restricted Total net assets	7,020,087 21,256,688 2,289,455 30,566,230

\$ 33,380,470

# Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2014

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

ended June 30, 2014  REVENUE	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
Contributions Special events Donor benefit costs – special events Park concessions Investment return	\$ 649,768 1,080,339 (293,560) 1,268,439 1,586,342	\$ 3,733,855 \$	22,025 \$	4,405,648 1,080,339 (293,560) 1,268,439 1,991,116
Total revenue	4,291,328	4,138,629	22,025	8,451,982
Net assets released from restrictions: Park projects and programs	11,713,231	(11,713,231)	22.025	0.454.000
Total	16,004,559	(7,574,602)	22,025	8,451,982
EXPENSES Program services: Planning, design, and construction Visitor services Park program and maintenance	11,369,814 820,837 476,559			11,369,814 820,837 476,559
Total program services	12,667,210			12,667,210
Management and general Fundraising	180,647 428,188			180,647 428,188
Total expenses	13,276,045		_	13,276,045
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	2,728,514	(7,574,602)	22,025	(4,824,063)
Net assets, beginning of year	4,291,573	28,831,290	2,267,430	35,390,293
Net assets, end of year	\$ 7,020,087	\$ 21,256,688	2,289,455 \$	30,566,230

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Gary Tinterow

John E. Walsh, Jr.

Doreen Stoller **Executive Director** 

Barbara Jo Harwell Conservation Director

Derrick Jackson Maintenance Coordinator

Mike Johnson Project Manager

Diane Kerr Manager of Volunteer **Programs** 

Meghan Miller Director of Development Ex-Officio Joe Turner Rick Dewees

**Executive Director** Doreen Stoller

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J. Kent Friedman Lissa Gangjee Morgan Garvey

Terri Havens Leisa Holland-Nelson Molly Hubbard

Barbara Hurwitz Philip John Cynthia J. Johnson

Ron Misrack Director, Visitor Services

Cati Rines Community Development Coordinator

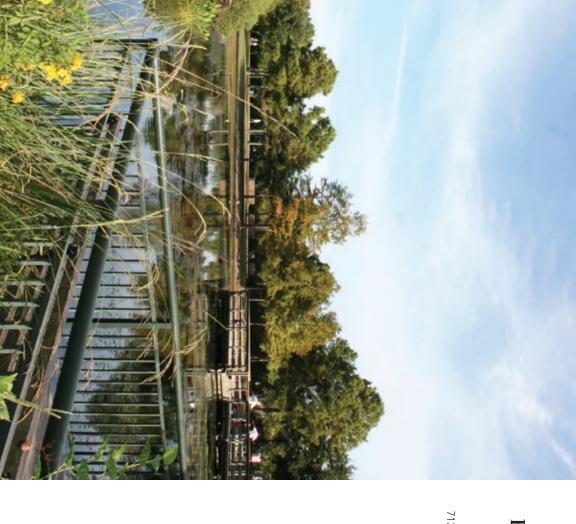
LaTonya Scott Assistant Manager, Visitor Services

Derrick Whitfield Manager, Pinewood Cafe

Full-time employees on June 30, 2014.

Rosemarie Johnson Margaret Justus Linda Kelly Christopher Lykes Knapp Jenny C. Ko David Krentz Elyse Lanier Sam L. Lasseter Cheryl Lawson Rashena Lindsay Flagg Gene Locke Kathy Lord Marley Lott Tommy Lott James Lykes Nancy R. Manderson Jackie Wolens Mazow Anne C. Mendelsohn Kenneth A. Moffet Vance Muse Warren R. Nicholson Kathleen L. O'Reilly, P.G. Precious Williams Owodunni Roz Pactor Dean Putterman Glen Ragland Chris J. Reichert Shafik I. Rifaat James L. Robertson Michael E. Rome Anna Rotman Karen A. Rozzell Brittany A. Sakowitz DeAndre Sam Lonnie Schiller Louis Sklar Ed Smith Claudia Solís Harry L. Stille Heath J. Thibodeaux Claire Thielke Jerianne Thomas Michele Thompson Richard R. Torres Sarah Pennington Tropoli Kimberly A. Tutcher Joe Weikerth Benjamin J. Williams Sheridan Williams L. Burke Windham III Susan Young Herbert H. Yuan





# CONSERVANCY

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